

Phanicropterus ruber. One was seen at Cameron, La., Dec. 6, 1910. Apparently the first definite record for Louisiana.

Querquedula cyanoptera. Dr. A. K. Fisher sends me notes on this and the following species. A Cinnamon Teal was killed by Mr. John Dymond at the Delta Duck Club, La., Jan. 15, 1911, and Mr. F. M. Miller, President of the Board of Game Commissioners, says that the species is not uncommon in Louisiana this year, he having reports of about 20 specimens taken.

Melopelia leucoptera. One of a pair was collected by Mr. Gus Smith at Venice, La., about Nov. 20, 1910.—W. L. McATEE, *Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.*

Enormous Death Rate among Water Fowl near Salt Lake City, Utah, Fall of 1910.—In reply to a letter of inquiry I am in receipt of some interesting information (dated Dec. 10, 1910) from the State Game and Fish Commissioner of Utah, Mr. Fred W. Chambers of Salt Lake City: ". . . will state that early in September, 1910, a malady came amongst the ducks and wild water fowl of this section, which has proven very disastrous, it being estimated that over two hundred thousand (200,000) have died from this disease. Mr. J. H. Mohler, Chief of Division of Pathology, Washington, D. C., who took the matter up, states that the disease is intestinal coccidiosis — which from appearances is a sort of cholera. On account of having scarcely any rain during the past season, the water was very low, and was to a great extent used for irrigation purposes. The ducks nested and hatched in the various sloughs, and the young being unable to fly, subsisted in the waters of said sloughs, which from long drought had become stagnant and filthy. The disease is supposed to have started in this way. Conditions have cleared up and very few sick ducks can now be found. The disease is not infectious to animals and people, as has been reported."—HENRY K. COALE, *Highland Park, Ill.*

Notes on Some Species from Eastern Oregon.—The winter of 1909–1910 was perhaps the most severe that has been experienced in eastern Oregon during the past 20 years. The unusual amount of snow, as well as the long continued cold, caused the death of many birds and to some extent forced others to change their normal habits.

A flock of a dozen *Oreortyx* was several times seen feeding on stable refuse hauled out from the town of Vale, Malheur County. Just where these wanderers came from would be a problem, as the nearest body of timber, the natural home of the species, is about 75 miles to the westward, and so far as I can learn the species is not found there.

The unusually deep snow handicapped the jackrabbits, which were very abundant at this time, rendering their capture by the ever hungry coyote merely a matter of a moment's effort. Early in the winter I began to notice that a small company of Magpies accompanied each and every